

FIN

FINE. *adj.* [*finne*, French; *fin*, Dutch and Erse, perhaps from *finitu*, completed, Latin.]

1. Not coarse.
Not any skill'd in loops of fingering *fine*,
With this so curious net-work might compare. *Spenser*.
He was arrayed in purple and *fine* linen. *Luke*.
2. Refined; pure; free from dross.
Two vessels of *fine* copper, precious as gold. *Exra* viii. 27.
3. Subtle; thin; tenuous: as, the *fine* spirits evaporate.
4. Refined; subtly excited.
In substance he promised himself money, honour, friends,
and peace in the end; but those things were too *fine* to be fortunate, and succeed in all parts. *Bacon*.
5. Keen; thin; smoothly sharp.
Whether the scheme has not been pursued so far as to draw it into practice, or whether it be too *fine* to be capable of it, I will not determine. *Temple*.
6. Great affairs are commonly too rough and stubborn to be wrought upon by the *finer* edges or points of wit. *Bacon*.
7. Clear; pellucid; transparent: as, the wine is *fine*.
Nice; exquisite; delicate.

Are they not senseless then, that think the foul
Nought but a *fine* perfection of the sense. *Davies*.
The irons of planes are set *fine* or rank: they are set *fine*,
when they stand so shallow below the sole of the plane, that
in working they take off a thin shaving. *Moxon's Mech. Exer.*

8. Artful; dexterous.
The wisdom of all these latter times, in princes affairs, is
rather *fine* deliveries, and shiftings of dangers and mischiefs,
than solid and grounded courses to keep them aloof. *Bacon*.
9. Fraudulent; fly; knavishly subtle.
Through his *fine* handling, and his cleanly play,
He all those royal signs had stol'n away. *Hubbard's Tale*.
10. Elegant; with elevation.
To call the trumpet by the name of the metal was *fine*. *Dry.*
11. Accomplished; elegant of manners.
He was not only the *finest* gentleman of his time, but one
of the *finest* scholars. *Felton on the Classics*.
12. Showy; splendid.
It is with a *fine* genius as with a *fine* fashion; all those are
displeased at it who are not able to follow it. *Pope*.

The satirical part of mankind will needs believe, that it is
not impossible to be very *fine* and very filthy. *Swift*.
[Ironically.] Something that will serve the purpose; something
worth contemptuous notice.

That same knave, Ford, her husband, hath the *finest* mad
devil of jealousy in him, master Brook, that ever governed
frenzy. *Shakespeare's Merry Wives of Windsor*.

They taught us, indeed, to cloath, to dwell in houses,
To feast, to sleep on down, to be profuse:
A *fine* exchange for liberty. *Phillips's Briton*.

FINE. *n. f.* [*ffin*, Cimbr.]

1. A mulct; a pecuniary punishment.
The killing of an Irishman was not punished by our law,
as manslaughter, which is felony and capital; but by a *fine* or
pecuniary punishment, called an ericke. *Davies on Ireland*.
2. Penalty.
Ev'n this ill night your breathing shall expire,
Paying the *fine* of rated treachery. *Shakespeare, King John*.

3. Forfeit; money paid for any exemption or liberty.
The spirit of wantonness is sure scared out of him: if the
devil have him not in fee-simple, with *fine* and recovery, he
will never, I think, in the way of waste, attempt us again.
Shakespeare's Merry Wives of Windsor.

Beside *finer* set upon plays, games, balls and feasting, they
have many customs which contribute to their simplicity. *Addis.*

How vain that second life in others breath,
Th' estate which wits inherit after death!
Ease, health, and life for this they must resign,
Unfore the tenure, but how vast the *fine*! *Pope*.

4. [From *finis*, Latin; *fin*, *ensin*, French.] The end; conclusion.
It is seldom used but adverbially, in *fine*.

In *fine*, whatsoever he was, he was nothing but what it
pleased Zelmane, the powers of his spirit depending of her. *Sid.*
His resolution, in *fine*, is, that in the church a number of
things are strictly observed, whereof no law of scripture
maketh mention one way or other. *Hooker, b. ii. f. 5.*

Still the *fine*'s the crown;
Whate'er the course, the end is the renown. *Shakespeare*.
Your daughter, ere she seems as won,
Desires this ring; appoints him an encounter;
In *fine*, delivers me to fill the time,

Herself most chaffly absent. *Shak. All's well that ends well*.
The blessings of fortune are the lowliest: the next are the
bodily advantages of strength and health; but the superlative
blessings, in *fine*, are those of the mind. *L'Estrange*.

In *fine*, he wears no limbs about him sound,
With fores and sicknesses beleagu'rd round. *Dryden's Juv.*

In *fine*, let there be a perfect relation betwixt the parts and
the whole, that they may be entirely of a piece. *Dryden*.

FIN

To **FINE**. *v. a.* [from *fine*, the adjective.]

1. To refine; to purify.
The *fining* pot is for silver, and the furnace for gold. *Prov.*
There is a vein for the silver, and a place for gold, where
they *fine* it. *Job xxviii. 1.*
2. To embellish; to decorate. Now not in use.
Hugh Capet also, who usurp'd the crown,
To *fine* his title with some shews of truth,
Convey'd himself as heir to th' lady Langare. *Shakespeare, H. V.*
3. To make less coarse.
It *finer* the grass, but makes it short, though thick. *Mortin*.
4. To make transparent.
It is good also for fuel, not to omit the shavings of it for
the *fining* of wine. *Mo. timer's Husbandry*.
5. [From the substantive.] To punish with pecuniary penalty.
To *fine* men one third of their fortune, without any crime
committed, seems very hard. *Locke*.

To **FINE**. *v. n.* To pay a fine.
What poet ever *fin'd* for sheriff? or who
By rhymes and verse did ever lord mayor grow? *Oldham*.

To **FINE**. *v. a.* [*fine* and *draw*.] To sow up a rent
with so much nicety that it is not perceived.

FINE. *n. f.* [from *finedraw*.] One whose business is
to sow up rents.

FINE. *adj.* [*fine* and *finger*.] Nice; artful; exquisite.

The most *finest* workman on the ground,
Arachne, by his means was vanquished. *Spenser*.

FINE. *adv.* [from *fine*.]

1. Beautifully; elegantly; more than justly.
Plutarch says very *finely*, that a man should not allow him-
self to hate even his enemies; because, says he, if you indulge
this passion on some occasions, it will rise of itself in others.
Addison's Spectator, No. 125.
2. Keenly; sharply; with a thin edge or point.
The walls are painted, and represent the labours of Her-
cules: many of them look very *finely*, though a great part of
the work has been cracked. *Addison on Italy*.

3. Not coarsely; not meanly; gaily.
He was alone, save that he had two persons of honour, on
either hand one, *finely* attired in white. *Bacon's New Atlantis*.

4. In small parts; subtly; not grossly.
Saltpetre was but grossly beaten; for it should not be *finely*
powdered. *Boyle*.

5. [Ironically.] Wretchedly; in such a manner as to deserve
contemptuous notice.

Let laws be made to obey, and not to be obeyed, and you
will find that kingdom *finely* governed in a short time. *South*.
For him the loves:
She nam'd not me; that may be Torridmond,
Whom he has thrice in private seen this day:
Then I am *finely* caught in my own snare. *Dryd. Sp. Fryar*.

FINE. *n. f.* [from *fine*.]

1. Elegance; beauty; delicacy.
Every thing was full of a choice *fineness*, that, if it wanted
any thing in majesty, it supplied with increase in pleasure;
and if at the first it struck not admiration, it ravished with
delight. *Sidney*.
2. Show; splendour; gaiety of appearance.
The softness of her sex, and the *fineness* of her genius, con-
spire to give her a very distinguishing character. *Prior*.

3. Subtlety; artfulness; ingenuity.
Those, with the *fineness* of their souls,
By reason guide his execution. *Shakespeare, Troil. and Cressida*.

4. Purity; freedom from dross or base mixtures.
Our works are, indeed, nought else
But the protractive trials of great Jove,
To find perceptive constancy in men;
The *fineness* of which metal is not found
In fortune's love. *Shakespeare's Troilus and Cressida*.

I am doubtful whether men have sufficiently refined metals;
as whether iron, brass, and tin be refined to the height: but
when they come to such a *fineness* as serveth the ordinary use,
they try no farther. *Bacon's Natural History*.

The ancients were careful to coin their money in due
weight and *fineness*, only in times of exigence they have dimi-
nished both the weight and *fineness*. *Arbutnot on Coins*.

FINE. *n. f.* [from *fine*.] Show; splendour of appearance;
gaiety of colours.

Dress up your houses and your images,
And put on all the city's *finery*,
To consecrate this day a festival. *Southern*.

The capacities of a lady are sometimes apt to fall short in
cultivating cleanliness and *finery* together. *Swift*.

Don't chafe your place of study by the *finery* of the prospects,
or the most various scenes of sensible things. *Watts*.

FINE. *ss.*

FIN

FINE. *ss.* [*fin*, French.] Artifice; stratagem; an unneces-
sary word which is creeping into the language.

A circumstance not much to be stood upon, in case it were
not upon some *finer*. *Hayward*.

FINGER. *n. f.* [from *fine*.] One who purifies metals.
Take away the dross from the silver, and there shall come
forth a vessel for the *finer*. *Prov. xxv. 4.*

FINGER. *n. f.* [from *finger*, Saxon, from *sangen*, to hold.]
1. The flexible member of the hand by which men catch and
hold.

The *fingers* and thumb in each hand consist of fifteen bones,
there being three to each *finger*: they are a little convex and
round towards the back of the hand, but hollow and plain
towards the palm, except the last, where the nails are. The
order of their dispositions is called first, second, and third phal-
lanx: the first is longer than the second, and the second longer
than the third. The upper extremity of the first bone on
each *finger* has a little sinus, which receives the round head of
the bones of the metacarpus. The upper extremity of the
second and third bones of each *finger* hath two small sinuses,
parted by a small protuberance; and the lower extremity of
the first and second bones of each *finger* has two protuberances,
divided by a small sinus: the two protuberances are received
into the two sinuses of the upper extremity of the second and
third bones; and the small sinus receives the little protube-
rance of the same end of the same bones. The first bone of
the thumb is like the bones of the metacarpus, and it is joined
to the wrist and second of the thumb, as they are to the wrist
and first of the *fingers*. The second bone of the thumb is
like the first bones of the *fingers*, and it is joined to the first
and third, as they are to the bones of the metacarpus and
second of the *fingers*. The *fingers* are moved sideways only
upon their first joint. Besides these there are some small
bones, called *ossa sesamoides*, because they resemble sesamum
grains: they are reckoned about twelve in each hand: they
are placed at the joint of the fingers, under the tendons of
the flexors, to which they serve as pulleys. *Quincy*.

You seem to understand me,
By each at once her choppy *finger* laying
Upon her skinny lips. *Shakespeare's Macbeth*.

Diogenes, who is never said,
For aught that ever I could read,
To whine, put *finger* i' th' eye and sob,
Because h' had ne'er another tub. *Hudibras*.

The hand is divided into four *fingers* bending forward, and
one opposite to them bending backwards, and of greater
strength than any of them singly, which we call the thumb,
to join with them severally or united; whereby it is fitted to
lay hold of objects of any size or quantity. *Ray on the Creat.*

A hand of a vast extension, and a prodigious number of
fingers playing upon all the organ pipes of the world, and
making every one found a particular note. *Keil against Burnet*.

Poor Peg fewed, spun, and knit for a livelihood, 'till her
finger ends were fore. *Arbutnot's Hist. of John Bull*.

2. A small measure of extension.
Go now, go trust the wind's uncertain breath,
Remov'd four *fingers* from approaching death;
Or seven at most, when thickest is the board. *Dryd. Juv.*

One of these bows with a little arrow did pierce through a
piece of steel three *fingers* thick. *Watkins's Math. Mag.*

3. The hand; the instrument of work; manufacture; art.
Fool, that forgets her stubborn look
This softness from thy *finger* took. *Waller*.

To **FINGER**. *v. a.* [from the noun.]

1. To touch lightly; to toy with.
Go, get you gone, and let the papers lie;
You would be *fingering* them to anger me. *Shakespeare*.
2. To touch unseasonably or thievishly.
One that is covetous is not so highly pleased with the meer
sight and *fingering* of money, as with the thoughts of his
being considered as a wealthy man. *Grew's Cefmol. Sac.*

3. To touch unseasonably or thievishly.
His ambition would needs be *fingering* the scepter, and
hoisting him into his father's throne. *South's Sermons*.

4. To touch an instrument of music.
She hath broke the lute;
I did but tell her she mistook her frets,
And bow'd her hand to teach her *fingering*. *Shakespeare*.

5. To perform any work exquisitely with the fingers.
Not any skill'd in loops of *fingering* fine,
With this so curious net-work might compare. *Spenser*.

FINGLE. *n. f.* [from *finger*.] A trifle: a burlesque
word.

We agree in nothing but to wrangle,
About the slightest *fingle*. *Hudibras, p. iii. cau. 3.*

FINGAL. *adj.* [from *fine*.] Nice; foppish; pretending to
superfluous elegance.

A whorl, glazifying, superserviceable, *finical* rogue.
Shakespeare's King Lear.

I cannot hear a *finical* sop romancing, how the king took
him aside at such a time; what the queen said to him at an-
other. *L'Estrange, Fable 34.*

FINGALLY. *adv.* [from *finical*.] Foppishly.

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FINICALNESS. *n. f.* [from *finical*.] Superfluous nicety; fop-
pery.

To **FINISH**. *v. a.* [*finir*, French; *finis*, Latin.]

1. To bring to the end purposed; to complete.
For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not
down first and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to
finish it? *Luke* xiv. 28.

As he had begun, so he would also *finish* in you the same
grace. *2 Cor. viii. 6.*

A poet uses episodes; but episodes, taken separately, *finish*
nothing. *Notes on the Odyssey*.

2. To perfect; to polish to the excellency intended.
Though here you all perfection should not find,
Yet is it all th' Eternal Will design'd;
It is a *finish'd* work, and perfect in his kind. *Blackmore*.

I would make what bears your name as *finish'd* as my last
work ought to be; that is, more *finish'd* than the rest. *Pope*.

3. To end; to put an end to.

FINISHER. *n. f.* [from *finish*.]

1. Performer; accomplisher.
He that of greatest works is *finisher*,
Oft does them by the weakest minister. *Shakespeare*.
2. One that puts an end; ender.

This was the plain condition of those times; the whole
world against Athanasius, and Athanasius against it: half an
hundred of years spent in doubtful trials which of the two, in
the end, would prevail; the side which had all, or else that
part which had no friend but God and death, the one a de-
fender of his innocence, the other a *finisher* of all his troubles.
Hooker, b. v. f. 42.

3. One that completes or perfects.
The author and *finisher* of our faith. *Hebrews*.
O prophet of glad tidings! *finisher*
Of utmost hope! *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. xii.*

FINITE. *adj.* [*finitus*, Latin.] Limited; bounded; termi-
nated.

Servius conceives no more thereby than a *finite* number for
indefinite. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. iv. c. 12.*

Finite of any magnitude holds not any proportion to infi-
nite. *Locke*.

That supposed infinite duration will, by the very supposi-
tion, be limited at two extremes, though never so remote
asunder, and consequently must needs be *finite*. *Bentley's Sermon*.

FINITELESS. *adj.* [from *finite*.] Without bounds; unlimited.
It is ridiculous unto reason, and *finiteless* as their de-
sires. *Brown's Vulgar Errors*.

FINITELY. *adv.* [from *finite*.] Within certain limits; to a
certain degree.

They are creatures still, and that sets them at an infinite
distance from God; whereas all their excellencies can make
them but *finutely* distant from us. *Stillingfleet*.

FINITENESS. *n. f.* [from *finite*.] Limitation; confinement
within certain boundaries.

I ought now to unbury the current of my passion, and love
without other boundary than what is set by the *finiteness* of
my natural powers. *Norris*.

FINITUDE. *n. f.* [from *finite*.] Limitation; confinement
within certain boundaries.

Finitude, applied to natural or created things, imports the
proportions of the several degrees of affections, or properties
of these things to one another; infinitude, the unboundedness
of these degrees of affections, or properties. *Cleyn*.

FINLESS. *adj.* [from *fin*.] Without fins.

He angers me
With telling of the moldwarp and the ant,
And of a dragon and a *finless* fish. *Shakespeare, Henry IV.*

FINLIKE. *adj.* [*fin* and *like*.] Formed in imitation of fins.
In shipping such as this, the Irish kern
And untawg Indian, on the stream did glide;
Ere sharp-keel'd boats to stem the flood did learn,
Or *finlike* oars did spread from either side. *Dryd. Ann. Mir.*

FINNED. *adj.* [from *fin*.] Having broad edges spread out on
either side.

They plow up the turf with a broad *finned* plough. *Mortin*.

FINNY. *adj.* [from *fin*.] Furnished with fins; formed for
the element of water.

High o'er the main in wat'ry pomp he rides,
His azure car and *finny* couriers guides;
Proteus his name. *Dryden's Virg. Georg. b. iv.*

New herds of beasts he sends the plains to share;
New colonies of birds to people air;
And to their oozy beds the *finny* fish repair. *Dryd. Ovid*.

While black with storms the ruffled ocean rolls,
And from the filher's art defends her *finny* tholes. *Blackmore*.

With hairy springs we the birds betray;
Slight lines of hair surprize the *finny* prey. *Pope*.

FINTOED. *adj.* [*fin* and *toe*.] Palmipedous; having a mem-
brane between the toes.

Such creatures as are whole footed, or *finfooted*, viz. some
birds and quadrupeds, are naturally directed to go into the
water and swim there. *Ray on the Creation*.

FINOCHIO.